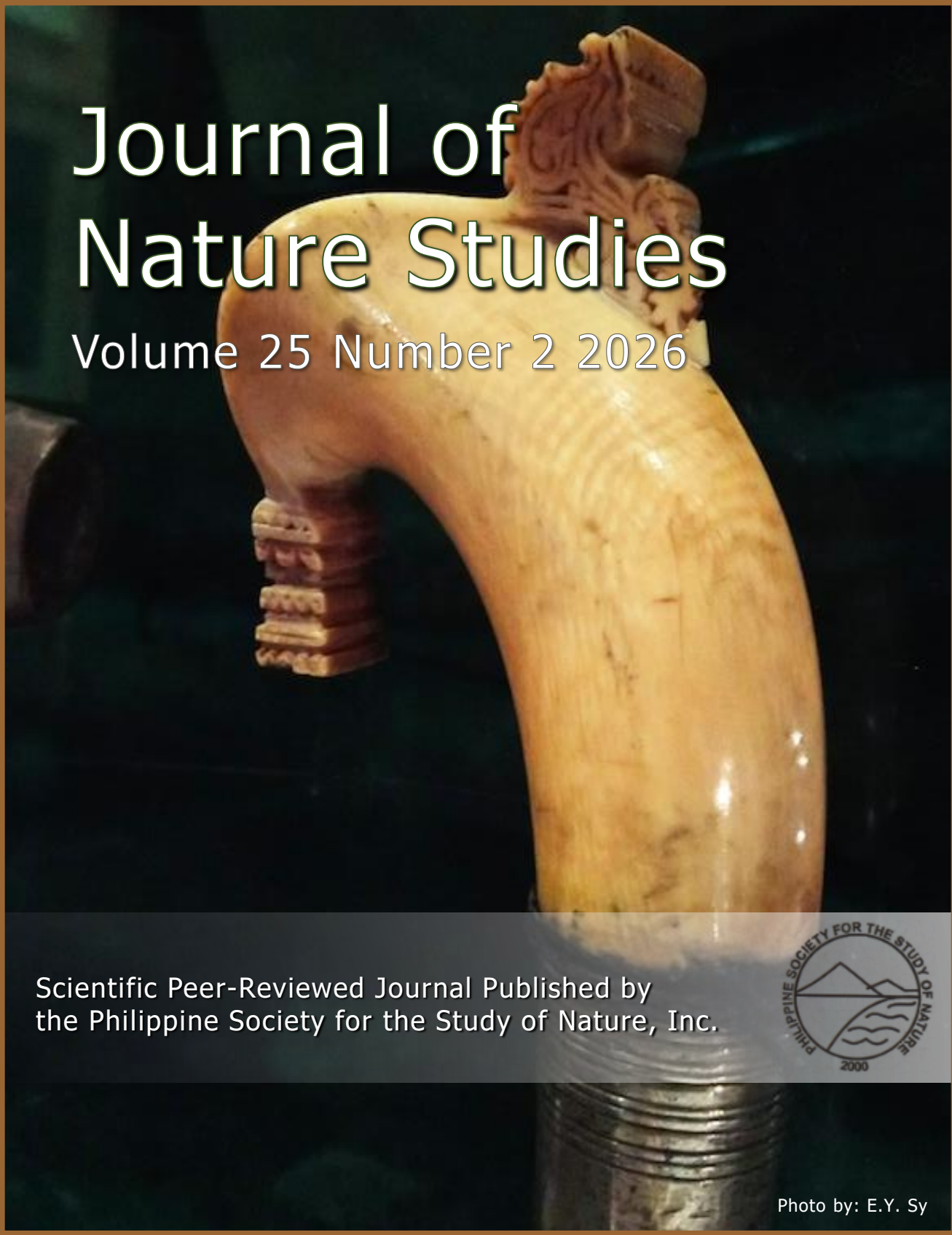


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Photo by: E.Y. Sy

ABOUT THE PHOTO: The cover of this issue features an ivory handle of *barong*, a traditional sword with a leaf-shaped blade. Accessories and weapons made of or designed with ivory were considered as status symbols among the people of the southern Philippines.

Photo by Emerson Y. Sy.